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Discarded Christmas Trees Will be Collected at the Curb

Give us your Christmas trees!



Give us your Christmas trees!

That's the message from the City of Raleigh to residents who are looking to get rid of their Christmas trees when holiday celebrations conclude. The City's Solid Waste Services Department recycles natural Christmas trees into wood chips and mulch. The products are then sold to the general public at the City's Yard Waste Center, 900 N. New Hope Road.

Raleigh residents can dispose of their Christmas trees by simply placing them at the curb with regular yard waste on their scheduled collection day. Be sure to remove all bags, stands, lights, tinsel, ornaments and other non-vegetative items from the tree before placing it at the curb no later than 7 a.m. on the collection day. Do not put trees at the curbside prior to your collection day.

Artificial trees being discarded should be disassembled and placed in the garbage cart. City crews will also collect natural wreaths for recycling; any wires, metal or bows must be removed from wreaths before they are placed on the curb for pickup.

Additionally, the City of Raleigh Solid Waste Services Department also is collecting discarded natural Christmas trees from multifamily complexes. These collections are limited to one per complex. The trees must be placed in an easily accessible location. Complex managers should call 919-996-6890 to arrange for a Christmas tree collection.

For more information, contact Linda Leighton at 919-996-6890.

Michael Tiemann, V.P. of Red Hat Open Source Affairs, Selected as City of Raleigh 2015 Environmental Awards Keynote



The City of Raleigh Office of Sustainability has announced Mr. Michael Tiemann as keynote speaker for the 2015 Environmental Awards program, scheduled for 7:00 p.m., Wednesday, April 22 at the NC Museum of Natural Sciences, 11 West Jones Street. The City of Raleigh Environmental Awards recognizes individuals and organizations that are good stewards of the environment in our community.

Mr. Tiemann is vice president of open source affairs at Red Hat where he provides technology, strategy, and policy advice to executives in the public and private sectors. Since 2006, he has served on the Board of Advisors of the Center for Environmental Farming Systems (CEFS), using his entrepreneurial open-source experience to help transform CEFS from a respected academic partnership to a national leader in sustainable food-systems practices and policies. At the same time, Mr. Tiemann translated what he learned about sustainability from CEFS into lessons applicable in the realm of enterprise software, sourcing and business strategy.

"Sustainability is a profound practice that transcends agriculture and the environment," said Tiemann when asked about his philosophy of sound environmental practices as they relate to food policy and economics. "In the business world, one cannot seriously talk about 'sustainable competitive advantage' without also understanding sustainability."

In accepting the invitation to be the keynote speaker invitation for the City's eighth annual event, said Mr. Tiemann, "Raleigh's Environmental Awards not only recognize our leaders in environmental stewardship, they also teach how we might all better understand the strategic and bottom-line benefits of better sustainability practices."

The City is accepting nominations for the 2015 Environmental Awards until February 13. Awards will be presented in 12 categories. A new award has been added to encourage the development of urban agricultural efforts in the city of Raleigh. Nominees/applicants must reside or operate within the city of Raleigh, the Raleigh extra-territorial jurisdiction (ETJ), or the utility service area. For more information about the City of Raleigh's 2015 Environmental Awards, visit the City of Raleigh website or call 919-996-3070.

Housing and Neighborhoods Department to Conduct Public Meetings on Five Year Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan

The City of Raleigh Housing and Neighborhoods Department will hold two meetings to receive public comments on activities for the Five Year Consolidated Plan for 2015-2020 and the one-year Annual Action Plan for 2015-2016.

The meetings will be held Tuesday, January 13, at the Method Community Park Pioneers Building, 514 Method Road and Thursday January 15, at John Chavis Community Center, 505 Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard. The meetings will begin at 6:00 p.m. and end at 8:00 p.m. both days. Registration will begin at 5:30 p.m. The same presentation will be made at each meeting.

The Consolidated Plan is a five-year plan that identifies the priority housing and community development needs of residents with low-incomes in Raleigh. The plan also establishes the strategies the City of Raleigh will follow to address those challenges. The Consolidated Plan will guide City expenditures of federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnership (HOME), and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds, as well as related local Affordable Housing Bond funds.

For more information, contact George Adler at the City of Raleigh Community Development Division, at 919-996-4330 or email CD.info@raleighnc.gov.

Follow the City of Raleigh on Twitter

Looking for the most up-to-date information from the City of Raleigh? Follow your local government via Twitter! Twitter is a free services that allows you to "follow" people or subjects via short, frequent updates. The City of Raleigh has several Twitter accounts to give users the opportunity to stay informed about the latest City news and breaking events. The City's Twitter handles are: **@RaleighGov** (City news releases and alerts); **@RaleighBPAC** (Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission); **@RaleighParks** (Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources Department); **@RaleighPlanning** (Planning and Development Department);

@RalCommServices (Community Services Department); **@RW911** (traffic accidents reported to the Emergency Communications Center); **@RaleighGoGreen** (Solid Waste Services Department Recycling program); **@RalPublicArt** (Arts Commission Public Art Program). To follow any of these, simply find the "Search Twitter" field on Twitter's home page (twitter.com) and enter any of the handles."

Follow the City of Raleigh on Facebook

The City of Raleigh has several Facebook Pages to help you stay informed about various topics and events. To "Like" any of our Pages, find the Search field at the top of Facebook's home page (facebook.com) and enter any of our page names:

City of Raleigh (main City page to keep you informed about events, holidays and other news items); **Raleigh Planning and Development**; **Raleigh Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources Department**; **Raleigh Community Services Department**; **Raleigh-Wake County 911**; **Raleigh Police Department**; **Raleigh Public Art**. Once you are on the page, choose "Like." You can also choose "Get Notifications" from the dropdown menu under the arrow on the Like button. This ensures you will never miss a post or status update.

Street Closings

First Friday Closings

On First Friday of each month, from 6 p.m. to midnight, the 00 block of Hargett Street between Fayetteville Street and Wilmington Street will be closed. This closure will also include the south side sidewalk of the block.

Permanent Repairs on Hammond Road in South Raleigh

Repairs to permanently fix a drainage problem that created a sinkhole to in the southbound lanes of Hammond Road at Rush Street in south Raleigh in September are underway. The N.C. Department of Transportation awarded a \$240,000 contract to Moffat Pipe, Inc. of Wake Forest for the repairs.

December 31 Raleigh First Night Fayetteville Street downtown, road closures will impact Fayetteville St. and cross streets throughout the day.



Take the CAT Park & Ride Shuttle Bus to

FIRST NIGHT RALEIGH

PRESENTED BY ARTSPLOSURE

Begins Dec 31, 2014 - 6 PM
Ends Jan 1, 2015 - 1 AM

Downtown Drop-Off & Pick-Up: Morgan St/Fayetteville

NORTH: 2728 Capital Blvd
@ Capital/Westinghouse

SOUTHEAST: 4011 Carya Dr
@ Poole Rd - East of 440

Regular CAT Fares Apply
raleighnc.gov/transit 919-485-RIDE (7433)